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20 July 1967

MEMORANDUM FOR: Special Assistant to Director, OBI

SUBJECT : Comments on Proposed OCR Referral System

1. The Geography Division regards the proposed OCR Referral System as a useful step in the direction of improving communication among intelligence production analysts and customers. We envision no difficulty in adjusting to the proposed mode of operation for the system. The Division has, for many years, handled a wide variety of "spot inquiries" and is therefore of the opinion that no significant change in our procedures will be necessary.

2. One of the chief benefits of the proposed system would appear to be its function as a device to prevent the initiation by non-DDI components of major research efforts on subjects which have already been adequately covered by DDI offices, even though no formal publication on the topic may have been issued.

3. We are prepared, upon request, to furnish the listings of analysts, areas, and subject specialities that will be required by OCR, and to attempt to refine, insofar as possible, the specific types of requests that we will be willing and able to handle.

4. We note, in the final sentence of the first paragraph of the AD/OCR's memorandum, reference to the fact that OCR analysts "will periodically follow up with customers to determine customer reaction and satisfaction." We are inclined to wonder why, once referral has been made and the inquiry accepted by a production office, there is any further necessity for OCR to follow up.

5. In sum, we feel that the OCR proposal is sound and feasible, and that the statement of 11 July by the AD/OCR can serve as a basis for initiating action.

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Acting Chief, Geography Division

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